



# NEWS RELEASE

## OFFICE OF THE STATE'S ATTORNEY FOR HOWARD COUNTY

For Immediate Release:

Contact: T. Wayne Kirwan, 410-313-2108  
[wkirwan@howardcountymd.gov](mailto:wkirwan@howardcountymd.gov)

February 22, 2017

### **Columbia Man Sentenced for Sexual Solicitation of Law Enforcement Officer Posing as a Minor**

A Columbia man received an eight-year-suspended sentence for sexual solicitation of a law enforcement officer posing as a minor in Howard County Circuit Court on Tuesday. Ryan Lee Parham, 32, of the 10000 block of Swansfield Road, Columbia, pleaded guilty to the charge on December 1, 2016 following his arrest, earlier in the year, by Maryland State Police investigators from the Maryland Internet Crimes Against Children Task Force.

On Tuesday, May 24, 2016 task force investigators conducted a proactive operation involving the online sexual solicitation of minors by monitoring the classified advertisement website, Craigslist. Parham communicated online with an undercover officer posing as a minor. When Parham drove to a Walgreen's drugstore in Columbia for a sexual rendezvous with what he believed to be a 13-year-old girl, he was arrested.

Judge William V. Tucker sentenced Parham to eight years in prison, fully suspending the sentence. Parham was fined \$250, ordered to pay court costs and to register as a Tier II sex offender. The judge also placed Parham on five years of supervised probation and to have no unsupervised contact with children under 16 other than his own children. Parham was also ordered to undergo mental health and substance abuse evaluation, testing and treatment, and to allow probation officers periodic access to his computer and electronic